



## U.S. Embassy Georgetown

100 Young and Duke Streets, Kingston, Georgetown

### **2016 Youth Ambassadors Program: Caribbean** **Adult Mentor Application**

#### **Program Description:**

The 2016 Youth Ambassadors Program (YAP) with the Caribbean includes a three-week U.S.-based exchange under the theme: **“Youth and Social Transformation”** for approximately 41 participants from five countries in the Caribbean region. In Guyana, we will select 8 students and 1 adult mentor to participate in the program **from August 8 – 29, 2016.**

The Youth Ambassadors Program provides youths with the tools and resources they need to realize their potential as leaders and to be protagonists in their own development. Through the YAP, a lifetime of service begins with a three-week exchange. Participants develop their leadership skills, strengthen their ability to serve their communities, and build mutual understanding in the Western Hemisphere. In addition to developing leadership skills, participants will learn about a variety of issues during activities and programming that will take place in Brattleboro, Vermont, three host cities in the United States., and Washington, D.C.

The exchange will be intensive, and highly interactive. Students and educators will participate in workshops, community service activities, team building exercises, meetings with community leaders, and leadership development exercises, and they will live with United States families.

**While the exchange is three weeks in length, the program extends for a year.** Upon their return home, the students will apply what they have learned to implement projects that serve needs in their communities under the guidance of their mentor. **The follow on community projects will take place from September 2016 to June 2017.**

If selected to participate, applicants **must** partake in **ALL** program activities in the United States and home country, including the pre-departure orientation and follow-on activities. Participants must remain with the program throughout the entire exchange . Personal travel within the United States during the program is not permitted.

Exchange visitors are required to travel on a specific visa, known as the J-1 visa. As an exchange visitor (J-1) visa holder, you will be subjected to the two-year home-country physical presence requirement. You are required to fulfill this requirement by returning to your home country for a cumulative total period of at least two years.

We seek energetic and committed applicants who are ready to develop their skills in order to be effective leaders in their schools and communities.

**Instructions for completing this application:** Please read carefully and fill out the application answering all questions completely. The information you provide on this application will provide the basis for selecting participants for this program. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Semi-finalists will be contacted for an in-person or telephone interview.

**Adult applicants must:**

- ✓ Be a Guyanese citizen residing in Guyana (applicants with dual U.S. citizenship/permanent residency will not be considered)
- ✓ Be between the ages of 25 and 40 years old
- ✓ Be a teacher, trainer, and/or community leader who work with youth
- ✓ Have a strong command of English
- ✓ Demonstrate positive leadership skills and a commitment to community service
- ✓ Exhibit a high level of open-mindedness, flexibility, and interpersonal skills
- ✓ Have the ability to work in a team and tolerate the opinions of others
- ✓ Be willing to take on the role of chaperone, exchange participant, and commit to the continued mentorship of youth participants after their return home
- ✓ Have little or no previous exposure to the U.S.
- ✓ Must fulfill a two-year home-country physical presence requirement.

Please submit the following required documentation listed below, along with your application:

- A copy of your birth certificate
- A copy of your passport bio-data page
- A copy of your curriculum vitae
- Two references

**Applications are due by March 16, 2016**

**Applications should be submitted to:**

Public Affairs Section  
U.S. Embassy Georgetown  
100 Young and Duke Streets  
Kingston, Georgetown

**OR**

Via E-mail to: [PDGeorge@state.gov](mailto:PDGeorge@state.gov)

**If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:**

Aretha Majeed  
U.S. Embassy Georgetown  
100 Young and Duke Streets  
Kingston, Georgetown  
Telephone: 225-4900 Ext: 4018  
E-mail: [PDGeorge@state.gov](mailto:PDGeorge@state.gov)

Bobby Adelson  
U.S. Embassy Georgetown  
100 Young and Duke Streets  
Kingston, Georgetown  
Telephone: 225-4900 Ext: 4102  
E-mail: [PDGeorge@state.gov](mailto:PDGeorge@state.gov)

**There is no application fee.** The United States Government will pay for all costs to participate in the program, including international travel to and from the United States, orientations, visa fees, and the exchange activities in the United States, including meals and lodging.

**Please be sure to read carefully and understand the description and role of the adult mentor.**

### **Description of the Adult Mentor & Participant Role:**

The Youth Ambassadors Program is designed for teenagers ages 15-18. Daily activities may be non-formal, non-traditional, experiential in nature, and designed specifically for youth to promote teambuilding, conflict resolution goals and cross-cultural understanding. The adult participants have many roles on the program.

These are listed according to the level of importance and percentage:

- **80% Participant:** The adult participant is an active participant who attends and is engaged in all program activities and events, including social activities, unless specified as “optional.” An adult participant actively contributes to the group and to the learning process. Adult participants must remain with the program throughout the entire trip. Personal travel during the program is not permitted.
- **20% Group leader and adult mentor:**
  - A group leader is responsible for:
    - **Travel:** Managing students when traveling in airports.
    - **Discipline:** It is important to understand that there may be times where the World Learning program coordinator is not present for meetings because they may be preparing for other activities. In that case it is up to you, the adult, to serve as the group leader.
    - **Assisting World Learning Staff:** There are many instances in which the World Learning staff will ask for your assistance in helping with different sessions or activities, either as a participant or as a facilitator. There may also be times when we’ll need you to assist with evening transitions and room checks.
    - **Program Pace:** The pace of the program is “American-style”, which means it’s very busy and requires a lot of energy and a high level of attention. It is expected that meetings and sessions will start on time. Adult Mentors should be familiar with the schedule and program rules, and assist staff in reminding participants about upcoming workshops, field trips, and daily activities.
    - **Observing:** Paying attention to the mood, needs and dynamics of the group - notice those who are isolated, homesick, or having difficulty adjusting or has any language barriers. Safety is included in this category and is everyone’s responsibility on program. Adult Mentors will communicate consistently with staff throughout the program. For any safety or health related observations, Adult Mentors should communicate with staff immediately.
  - **An adult mentor is responsible for:**
    - **Being a cultural bridge:** It is important to understand and anticipate where there may be cultural differences and confusion. Adults Mentors should be willing and able to address issues within the group of students who come from different countries.
    - **Role Model:** Model respectful, positive, and cooperative interactions. Help to create positive energy and enthusiasm among participants. Support the development of a community among participants.

# Youth Ambassadors Program: Caribbean

## Adult Mentor Application

Please type your responses CLEARLY

Paste or staple a recent passport-size photograph here

### PERSONAL INFORMATION (Please print your name EXACTLY as it appears on your passport)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last (Family)

First

Middle

Current Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Mother's Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth (Month/dd/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

City and Country of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Country of citizenship or permanent legal residence \_\_\_\_\_

Gender ☐ Male ☐ Female

### Passport Information

Do you have a valid passport? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please attached a copy of your passport bio data page

Passport Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date (dd/mm/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_

Issuing Country \_\_\_\_\_

### Travel Information

Have you ever traveled to the United States or another country? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please provide a brief description of dates, length and nature of your stay(s):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any plans to migrate in the next two years for study or permanent residence?

☐ Yes ☐ No

### PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION, EDUCATION, AND ACTIVITIES

**\*\*Please attach a CV or one page summary of your work experience\*\***

#### Professional Information

Name of Current Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title \_\_\_\_\_ Length How long at this job: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor's Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Education**

Highest Degree/Diploma earned: When (month/year) \_\_\_\_\_ School/Institution  
name \_\_\_\_\_

Location (town/city) \_\_\_\_\_

Do you speak any other languages?     ☐ Yes ☐ No     Language \_\_\_\_\_

**SHORT ESSAYS:** *Please respond to the following short essay questions in one paragraph*

What are your specific job responsibilities? If a teacher, what subjects do you teach?

Please describe the activities (extracurricular, community, hobbies, clubs) in which you are involved in outside of work.

What motivates you to apply to this program? Why do you want to spend three weeks with teenagers from your country?

What do you find to be the most challenging thing about working with youth, and how have you dealt with it?

Can you identify a specific issue or problem affecting your school, neighborhood, or community? What might you do to help resolve this problem?

How do you practically plan to support participants after the program as they implement community projects, considering your existing responsibilities and time commitments?

How are you currently involved with youth in your community and how do you hope to grow in that role using this program?

Describe your most significant experience in which you were in a new environment/culture. How did it differ from your expectations? How did you respond to the differences? What new skills did you develop?

Tell us about a time you acted in a leadership role. How did you approach this role? What specific actions did you take? Why?

#### **Participant Agreement**

I agree that all of the information in this application is true and I agree that if chosen to participate, I will participate in ALL program activities in the United States and my country, including the pre-departure orientation and follow-on activities. I also understand that I must remain with the program throughout the entire exchange and that personal travel within the United States during the program is not permitted.

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Applicant Signature

Date

**Media Consent:** *Please sign the following statement to give permissions for photos and videos*

I consent to the use and/or reproduction of all photographs and video taken of, or including me, by the Department of State, including any agency, client, publication or other organization or institution in whole or in part, in all forms and media, for distribution to the general public for the purposes of publicity and promotion. I further consent to the reproduction or use of the photographs/information with or without my name, and consent that the Department of State may seek copyright of the photographs/information in their name.

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Applicant Signature

Date

## YOUTH AMBASSADORS PROGRAM: Caribbean

### Reference 1 of 2

**Applicant Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**For the Applicant:** Please submit two references with your application. The forms should be from a supervisor, professor, or other professional colleague outside your family who knows you well. The form must be completed in English. You may submit this form in paper with your application OR your reference can return the signed and completed form to:

**Public Affairs Section  
U.S. Embassy Georgetown  
100 Young and Duke Streets  
Kingston, Georgetown  
OR Via E-mail to: [PDGeorge@state.gov](mailto:PDGeorge@state.gov).**

**For the person providing reference:** The person named above is applying to take part in the Youth Ambassadors Program, a three-week exchange program in the United States for students and adult mentors. The selected participants will be in a challenging academic environment and intensive leadership training. To succeed, the participants must be highly motivated, and be able to adjust to living and working with people of different social and cultural backgrounds. We value your honest assessment of the applicant in helping us select the most appropriate participants. If you would like to add additional comments, we encourage you to do so. Your answers will remain confidential.

Please indicate your opinion of this applicant's ability to meet the challenges of this program

- \_\_\_\_\_ I strongly recommend this applicant
- \_\_\_\_\_ I recommend this applicant
- \_\_\_\_\_ I have minor reservations about recommending this applicant
- \_\_\_\_\_ I have major reservations about recommending this applicant
- \_\_\_\_\_ I do not recommend this applicant

How long, and in what context or capacity, have you known this applicant?

What are the applicant's strengths?

What are the professional or personal areas in which this applicant needs improvement?



Please describe the applicant's behavior with respect to youth, peer relationships, responsibility, and work activities.

How do you think the applicant would adapt to unfamiliar environments and new situations such as living with a host family from another culture and taking part in experiential learning activities?

Additional comments:

Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## YOUTH AMBASSADORS PROGRAM: Caribbean

### Reference 2 of 2

**Applicant Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**For the Applicant:** Please submit two references with your application. The forms should be from a supervisor, professor, or other professional colleague outside your family who knows you well. The form must be completed in English. You may submit this form in paper with your application OR your reference can return the signed and completed form to:

**Public Affairs Section  
U.S. Embassy Georgetown  
100 Young and Duke Streets  
Kingston, Georgetown  
OR Via E-mail to: [PDGeorge@state.gov](mailto:PDGeorge@state.gov).**

**For the person providing reference:** The person named above is applying to take part in the Youth Ambassadors Program, a three-week exchange program in the United States for students and adult mentors. The selected participants will be in a challenging academic environment and intensive leadership training. To succeed, the participants must be highly motivated, and be able to adjust to living and working with people of different social and cultural backgrounds. We value your honest assessment of the applicant in helping us select the most appropriate participants. If you would like to add additional comments, we encourage you to do so. Your answers will remain confidential.

Please indicate your opinion of this applicant's ability to meet the challenges of this program

- \_\_\_\_\_ I strongly recommend this applicant
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- \_\_\_\_\_ I have minor reservations about recommending this applicant
- \_\_\_\_\_ I have major reservations about recommending this applicant
- \_\_\_\_\_ I do not recommend this applicant

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What are the professional or personal areas in which this applicant needs improvement?

Please describe the applicant's behavior with respect to youth, peer relationships, responsibility, and work activities.

How do you think the applicant would adapt to unfamiliar environments and new situations such as living with a host family from another culture and taking part in experiential learning activities?

Additional comments:

Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_